

## Brownfields Supplemental Assistance

# Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments, OK

#### **BACKGROUND**

EPA awarded the Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (ASCOG) supplemental assistance for its Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot. ASCOG represents 272,000 residents within a consortium of eight counties and 71 municipalities in southern Oklahoma. ASCOG is the regional leader on environmental issues in this rural and agricultural region where poverty rates range as high as 28 percent.

The ASCOG brownfields inventory developed during the original Pilot contains 103 sites, and the Association estimates that there are over 250 brownfields in the region. Of the 103 identified sites, ASCOG accomplished initial assessments and planning for 14 high priority sites targeted under the original Pilot. One of these sites has already been cleaned up and awaits construction of a soccer complex. The state has agreed to conduct Phase II assessments at three of the high priority sites. Supplemental assistance is needed to work toward completion of the site assessments and planning on the ten remaining high priority sites. Most of these properties are abandoned or underused former industrial sites and environmental concerns are a major consideration in redeveloping them.

### **OBJECTIVES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

Supplemental assistance will be used to advance several sites towards redevelopment and thus improve the environment and economy of this rural region of Oklahoma. Successfully redeveloping a few high priority, highly visible sites is expected to demonstrate the value of a coordinated brownfields program and generate enthusiasm for undertaking additional projects.

#### **PILOT SNAPSHOT**

May 2002

Date of Announcement:

Amount: \$150,000

**Profile:** The Pilot will complete Phase II environmental assessments on eight high-priority sites in this rural, eight-county region.

Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments, Oklahoma

#### Contacts:

Association of South Central Oklahoma Governments (580) 252-0595 Regional Brownfields Team U.S. EPA Region 6 (214)665-6736

Visit the EPA Region 6 Brownfields web site at: http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/sf/bfpages/sfbfhome.htm

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:

www.epa.gov/brownfields

Supplemental assistance will be used to implement Phase II environmental assessments at eight sites that underwent Phase I assessments under the original Pilot. ASCOG also will expand public outreach, continue to identify new brownfields, develop partnerships, and leverage additional resources.

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Completing four Phase II environmental assessments and identifying cleanup requirements for these sites;
- Conducting Phase II environmental assessments on four more of the targeted brownfields properties; and
- Conducting outreach and community involvement activities.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.